

To: Montgomery County Council
Re: Bill 25-22, Forest Conservation – Trees
For: Hearing, February 7, 2023

We are writing to inform you that the League of Women Voters of Montgomery County enthusiastically endorses Bill 25-22 as a major step towards fighting climate change locally.

Given that the world is more than 40 years late in beginning to address climate change, these new extensive steps for increasing county forests will be an important contribution.

In the last decade, Montgomery County lost 4000 acres of forests. It is valuable that this bill identifies more situations in which trees should be planted or receive additional care – including in lower and higher density land use categories – and updates the allowable types of forest mitigation banks.

Nancy Bliss and Vicky Stella, co-presidents
Linda Silversmith, chair, environmental committee